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## **TOWN OF DOBROMIL AND ITS CASTLES: AN ATTEMPT OF RECONSTRUCTION THE PLANNING STRUCTURE FOR THE 17TH CENTURY**

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***Abstract:** In this article we try to reconstruct the planning structures of town of Dobromil in Rus` (Rythenia) province of Kingdom of Poland at the time of 17th century. Dobromil (ukr. Dobromyl) was the main private city of Herburt family in the valley of the river Stryazh in the Sambir district. We perform attempts of a hypothetical planning reconstruction of this city on the basis of an analysis of a number of historical maps of the late 18th and 19th centuries. The city of Dobromyl also has the peculiarity that Herburts founded two castles here – the High Castle at a certain distance from the city and the Low Castle near the midtown. Jan Herburt from Felshtyn became famous for founding a printing house in Dobromyl, where significant written historical works were first printed in 1611-1616 – a chronicle of Poland by Jan Długosz and letters by Orzechowski.*

*An important material for the hypothetical reconstruction of city layouts and city fortifications was the hand-drawn map by d'Otto from 1772, the map by F. von Mieg from the 1779-1781, cadastral maps from the 1852, and 1853, maps from 1860-1864 of the Second cartographic survey of Galicia.*

***Keywords:** the Herburt family, city of Dobromil, castle, planning schemes, 16th-18th centuries.*

### **Introduction**

Dobromyl was first mentioned in documents in 1374 in connection with the granting by Prince Vladislaus II of Opole to the above-mentioned three brothers Herburt of Felshtyn in Moravia of a number of estates on the rivers Vyrva and Stryazh with permission to build their own castle (Gvan`yini, 2009). The Herburts established a new settlement near Dobromyl, which they named Felshtyn, (currently Skelivka) like their possessions in the west (Wikipedia, 2019; Jabłonowski, 1901). In the 15th-17th centuries the Herburts owned towns and castles in Khyriv, Olesko, Kulykiv, Felshtyn, Dobromyl, and Kudryntsi on the Zbruch (Boniecki, 1904). Traditionally for that time, cities acted as centers of so-called "settlement arrowheads" and were the centers of economic activity of magnate families. The Dobromyl arrowhead of the Herburt's settlements included the city of Dobromyl, its suburbs Huchko, and the villages of Arlamiv, Velyke, Kvasynyna, Knyazhpil, Liatske, Mihove, Paporotno, Polyana, and Sopitnyk (Wikipedia, 2019). We want to take a closer look at this city due to its great importance in the history of the region.

### **Presentation of the research materials.**

In 1566, King Sigismund II Augustus allowed the Lviv castellan Stanisław Herburt, head of the salterns in Ruthenia, to change the village of Dobromyl into a self-governing city (Sulimierski 1881). Under the privilege of Magdeburg Rights, the city was allowed to hold weekly trades and two annual fairs. Under the privilege, the city was exempt from the royal tax for 15 years. The settlement was re-planned on new principles: in the center a square-shaped market square with a town in the middle was formed; buildings were placed along the perimeter of the square on plots of the same width (Fig. 3). The market square in Dobromyl belongs to the new renaissance planning type in terms of planning and typology features. Quarters of urban

development of the same depth are formed around the Market. The grid of streets creates a regular rectangular character. Analyzing the cadastral plan of the city from 1852. (Fig. 4) we are convinced that the city center was planned very professionally. We can assume that the planning structure was created with the participation of invited engineers. The place for the construction of the church was defined in the north-western corner of the city center. The church was located in the street leading from the Market to the eastern gate.

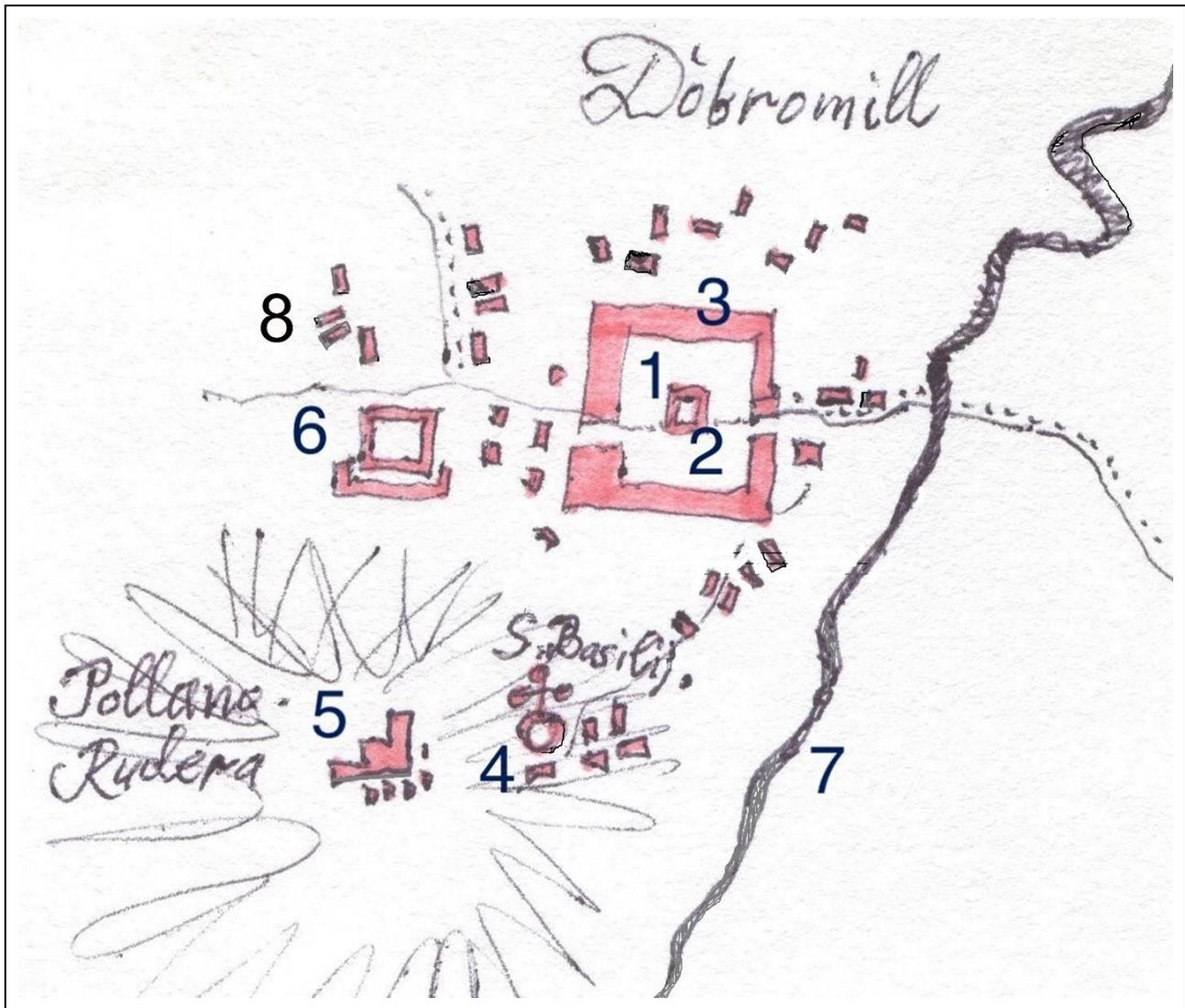


Fig. 1. Scheme showing the landscape conditions and urban character of the town of Dobromyl in Galicia on the map by J. d Otto, 1772 (Enlarged outline from the original map, M.Bevz [4]). Designation: 1 - Market square with buildings in the perimeter; 2 - town hall; 3 - lines of buildings around the market; 4 - Basilian Monastery; 5 - the ruins of the castle (Pollana Rudera); 6 – castle; 7 - the river; 8 - saltworks.

The fourth letter of d'Otto map fixes the road along the Stryonz (ukr. Strviash, Stryvihor) River through several settlements. Letter has signature - «R. d'Otto. Ritter: ». Dobromil is marked as a city with a city center (middletown), a market square, a town hall, and a castle or large courtyard in the western part. The road crosses the center and the Market from west to east. The map is not fixed by any defensive fortifications in Dobromyl (Fig. 1, items 1-3). A special feature of the plan is that the two castles and the Basilian monastery are marked on the map near the city. The High castle is located in the village of Poliana (between the settlements of Ternava and Poliana). The High castle is marked on the suburb in a state of ruin - signed by "Rudera" (Pollana-Rudera). The Monastery of the Basilian Order of St. Onuphrius (S. Basilij). and the High castle are drawn on the map by symbols not far from the city. In reality, they are located quite far from the border of the city. The

city owner's manor (Low castle) and saltwork are shown correctly (Fig. 1, items 6, 8). The fortification of the city is not marked on the map. This indicates that they no longer existed at that time.

Thus, the author identifies the four most prominent complexes that formed the landscape of the city and its surroundings. This is a densely built-up middletown with a market square and town hall (Fig. 1, item 1), the Low castle or defensive yard near the center (item 6), saltworks (item 8) and at some distance from the city are located - another castle marked as a ruin (item 5) and the Basilian monastery of St. Onuphrius (item 4). From the plan it can be concluded that the middletown had two gates - east and west.

A very valuable piece of information on the d'Otto map, in our opinion, is the designation of another defensive object to the west from the center of Dobromyl. It is indicated in the configuration of a large square (Fig. 1, item 6). Another wall or rampart line is drawn parallel to the southern curtain wall. The identification of this object can be as follows. Historical data indicate the existence of two castles - the so-called Lower Castle in the city and the High Castle located to the south from the city on a high mountain - in this Herburts family's private city. The ruins of the High Castle are still preserved today. Instead, the location of the Low Castle is still unknown. Thus we can assume that our object on the map by d'Otto is the first known marking of the Dobromyl's Low Castle location.



*Fig. 2. The city of Dobromyl on the map of Friedrich von Mieg from 1779-1781. Like on the map of d'Otto, - here there is a square object marked to the west of the church (Kriegarchiv) [12].*

A slightly later map by F. von Mieg from 1781 also has the designation of this object (Fig. 2). The images are virtually identical: the castle is shown as square in plan; all sides have perimeter-closing buildings. Von Mieg's map shows the location of the entrance on the north side. Instead, the map by d'Otto captures an additional line of wall or rampart on the southern side.



Fig. 3. Cadastral plan of the Dobromyl (Dobromil) from 1852 (Gesher Galicia, 2017).

As a rule, after obtaining the Magdeburg right and receiving 15 years of tax exemption, the city developed actively. During this period, the owner invited settlers (mostly skilled artisans) to settle in the city, facilitated the development of plots, gave permission for the use of forest for building materials, allowed the construction of the town hall and of fortifications. The construction of defensive walls or ramparts was a mandatory operation during the construction of the city center. In the second half of the 16th century, bastion fortification systems were often used in Galicia. We believe that a bastion fortification scheme was used in Dobromyl. The city center was surrounded by a rampart and had four corner bastions and three gates. In the 1570s, such lines of fortifications were already used in Ruthenia. We are not sure whether the ramparts and bastions were made of brick. Most likely, an earthen-wooden structure of the ramparts was used, with a wooden structure of the crossbar type defensive fence at the top. The characteristic broken directions of the streets in some places of the cadastral plan from 1852 (Fig 3.) which indicate the outline of lines of fortifications with the use of flanking shoulders of the bastions can serve as arguments for the existence of this type of bastion fortifications. Such broken sections of streets could not arise spontaneously in the process of city planning. As a rule, they are relics of an ancient planning structure. In Figure 4 we present a hypothetical reconstruction of the outline of the fortifications in the center of Dobromyl and the location of the Low Castle.

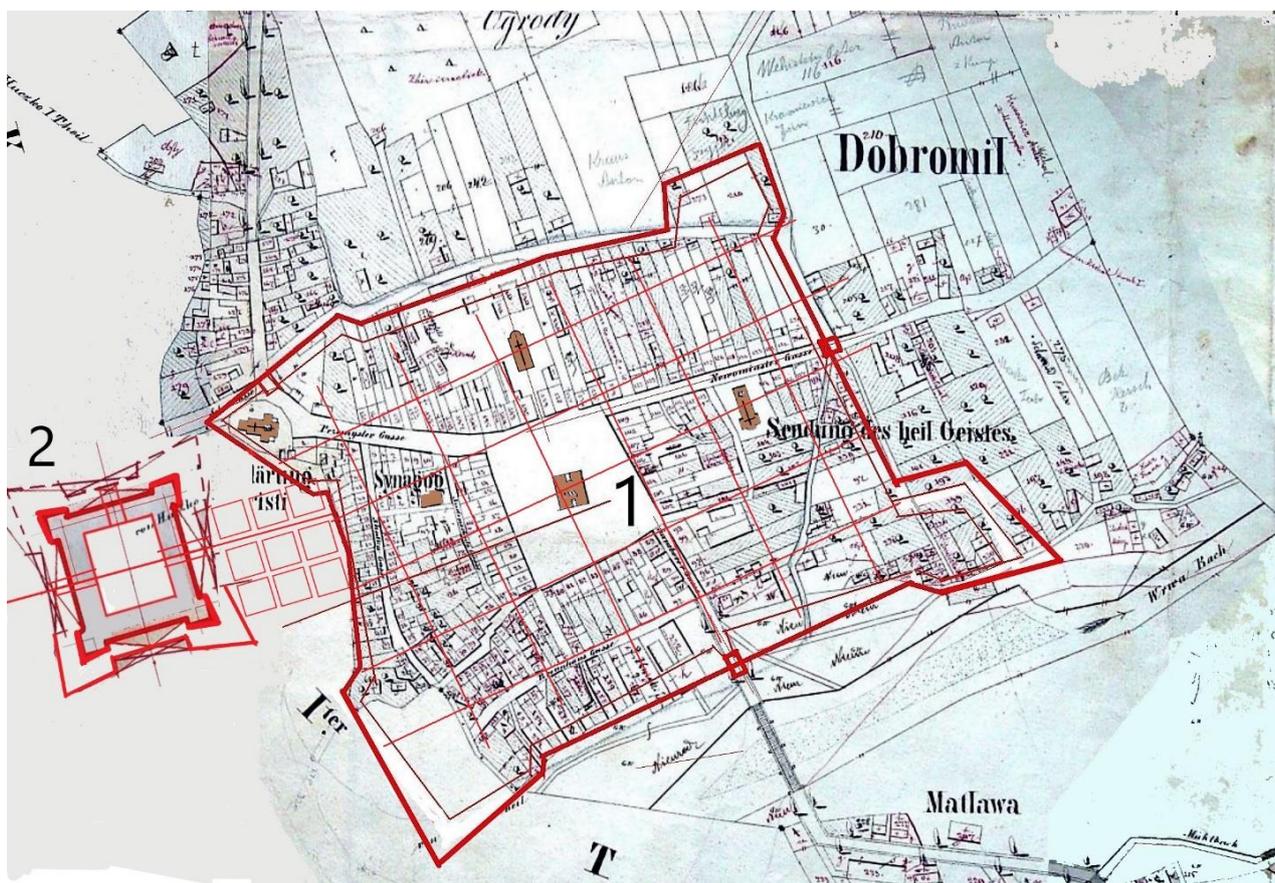


Fig. 4. Hypothetical reconstruction of the planning structure of the fortifications of the center of Dobromyl in the 17th century, based on the analysis of the cadastral plan of the city from 1853 (Gesher Galicia, 2017): 1 - the city center; 2 - the Lower Sactle. Adaptation by M. Bevz.

The Low Castle in Dobromyl was first mentioned in 1521 (Zamky i khramy Ukrainy, 2010; Matsiuk, 2005). Thus, its construction was connected with the previous urban structure of the rural settlement. An interesting fact is that the castle was not located in the territory of Dobromyl. If you move from Rynok Square to the west, immediately after the plot with the Transfiguration Church, the grounds of the village of Huchko once began. The place chosen for the construction of a defensive estate was just on the border lands of Dobromyl and Huchko. Later, during the planning actions to establish the Dobromyl midtown in 1566, the existence of the castle was taken into account and the city boundary was drawn nearby. Obviously, this boundary was conditional. Compositionally, the castle was combined with the western ridge of the fortifications of the city center and the church building. The church was located in the north-western corner of the midtown, on the bastion and its establishment took place after the planning of the midtown in 1566. The city had 15 land plots (lanów) around the midtown (Sulimierski, Chlebowski and Walewski, 1881, S.72-76)). The planning measures were carried out so that the castle formed a spatial-urban and defensive structure connected with the midtown. Judging by the images on d'Otto's and F. von Mieg's maps, the Low Castle had the features of a typical defensive courtyard of the early 16th century. We believe that his square yard was surrounded by a rampart or a wall with corner square towers or bastejas. Inside such fortress was the owner's palace, kitchen, arsenal and outbuildings - pantry and larder, stables, carriage house, barns. It is possible that these buildings could form a continuous line of buildings around the perimeter of the yard and adjoined the rear sides of the rampart or the defensive wall. It is logical to assume that the palace building of the owner could be built of bricks, so it is worth planning archaeological research in this place.

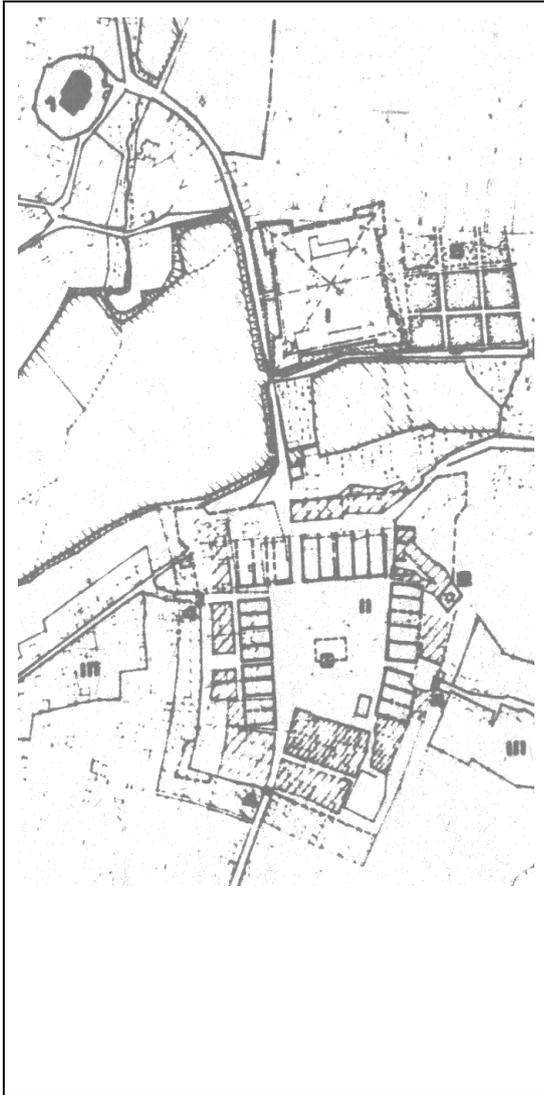
Analogues of the architectural solution of such complexes of the 16th century are well known. They can be found in special literature (Fig. 6-7, (Vakhutkevych, Bevz and Dubyk, 1997)), so we hope that archaeological research of the castle and its more accurate hypothetical reconstructions are still ahead. The second volume of the Geographical Dictionary from 1881 states that the Low Castle was rebuilt by Jan

Szczensny Herbut (Sulimierski, Chlebowski and Walewski, 1881, S.72-76). There, however, it is written that the castle was built by Jan Szczensny Herbut. But we have given the facts about the earlier construction of this castle in the early 16th century. So Jan Szczensny could finish it or rebuild it. Perhaps its restructuring was significant. The dictionary also contains information about the existence of paintings (frescoes) in the interiors of the Low Castle - there are frescoes on the walls of the castle with an allegory of human virtues („Znajdują się w zamku na ścianach freski z alegorią cnót obywatelskich” (Sulimierski, Chlebowski and Walewski, 1881, S.72-76).

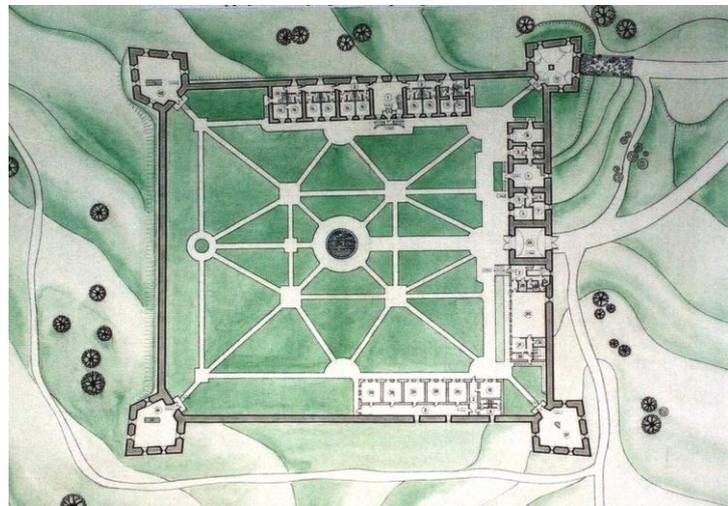
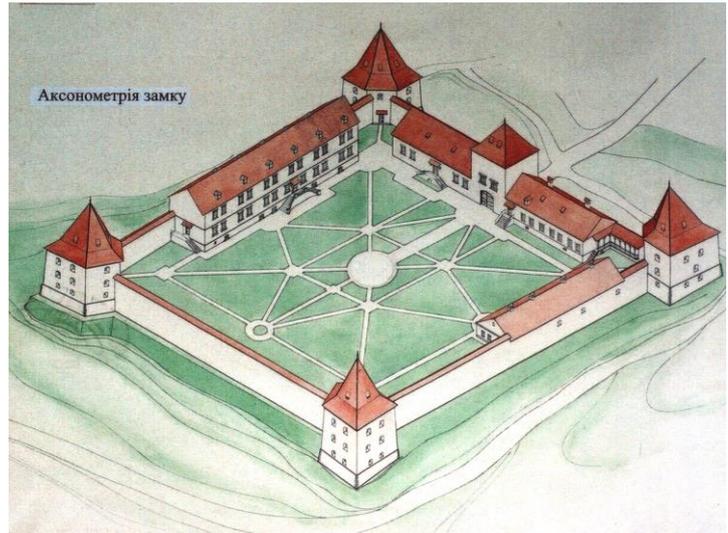


Fig. 5. Plan of the city of Dobromil on the map of Galicia from 1861-1864 (Arcanum maps, 2020a)

Our attention was drawn to a picture of the Herbut Castle in Dobromil from 1698 (Fig. 13). It was first published in the weekly "Lwowianin" in 1836, and later republished by W. Łoziński in 1912 (Łoziński, 1912, S.12). All researchers have identified this figure as an image of the High Castle. However, if we carefully analyze the picture, we see that it can not be an image of the High Castle. First of all, the object is not shown on a high mountain, but on the banks of a river or lake. Castle buildings are built on high sloping walls, like on bastions. The High Castle does not have such walls. Its walls are steep from the base (fig. 11). The nature of the buildings in the figure indicates the rectangular nature of the plan of the castle complex. The High Castle is on the other hand, has rounded plan shapes. His plan is long and narrow - 80 x 25 meters (fig. 12). The silhouette of the castle in the picture has a complex character of buildings of different heights, with a tall tower in the center. But the High Castle was surrounded by a high four-tiered wall around the perimeter. He had never such a silhouette. So the picture does not show the High Castle, but some other Herbut's object. There is no doubt that this figure represents the Low Castle in Dobromil in its condition at the end of the 17th century. A more thorough proof of this hypothesis requires a separate study, which we hope to implement in the future. The Low Castle gradually disappeared from the landscape of the city during the 19th century. We can still recognize one of its buildings on the map from 1864 (Fig. 5). Priest Władysław Żyła, writing about Dobromil in a local newspaper, points out that only the entrance gate of the castle survived in 1920 (Żyła, 1920, S.1-2.5).



*Fig. 6. Hypothetical reconstruction of the planning structure of the town of Lubomierz-Zołynia in Lesser Poland as of the 17th century by M. Książek (1988, S.145): I - the fortified courtyard; II - locational center; III - suburbs; 1 - church; 2 - synagogue; 3 - town hall; 4 - the area between the city center and the hypothetical line of fortifications; 5 - Italian garden at the yard; 6 - folwark.*



*Fig. 7. Castle of the 16-17 century in the town of Zoloty Potik: A - axonometry of the castle, B - planning structure of the castle with a palace located in the northern part of the courtyard and a gate in its eastern part (Archive of the Department of Architecture and Restoration, Lviv Polytechnic National University. Diploma project "Restoration of the castle in the town of Zoloty Potik", 1997. Diplomant: Vakhutkevych N., promotor: Bevz M., Dubyk Y. (1997).*

The location of the Low Castle in this place may be connected to the fact that the saltern in Huchko has existed for a long time and the castle was a "companion" to this business important for the Herburts. The Geographical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland mentions the existence of two ancient wooden churches in Huchko (Sulimierski, Chlebowski and Walewski, 1881, s. 203-204), which existed until the end of the 19th century. This fact may indicate that this settlement with a saltworks (operated until 1830) was the economic basis for the later urban development of Dobromyl's center. In 1647, Dobromyl receives the privilege of the "storage of Hungarian wines", which undoubtedly also contributed to the economic rise of the city (Baliński and Lipiński, 1845).



Fig. 8. Photo postcard overlooking the central part of Dobromil, 1931 (ZAMKI W POLSCE, 2006)

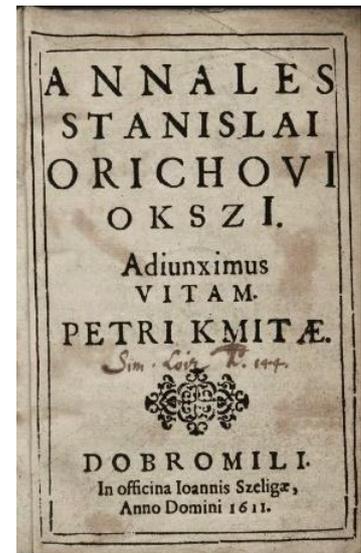


Fig. 9. Title page of Orikhovsky's book, published in Dobromil (1611).

According to the historian Władysław Łuszczkiewicz, who in the 19th century was already interested in the history of Dobromyl, the main place of permanent settlement of the Herburts was the Low Castle in the city. The other - the High Castle - was used by the family sporadically and was a place of refuge for the surrounding population in cases of military threat (Władysław, 1890). Historian V. Pshyk found a very important mention of the fact that the Low Castle was called a palace in later times in the city (Pshyk, 2008, S.189). This once again confirms that the main element of the castle was a brick palace and the object itself had the characteristics of a noble residence.

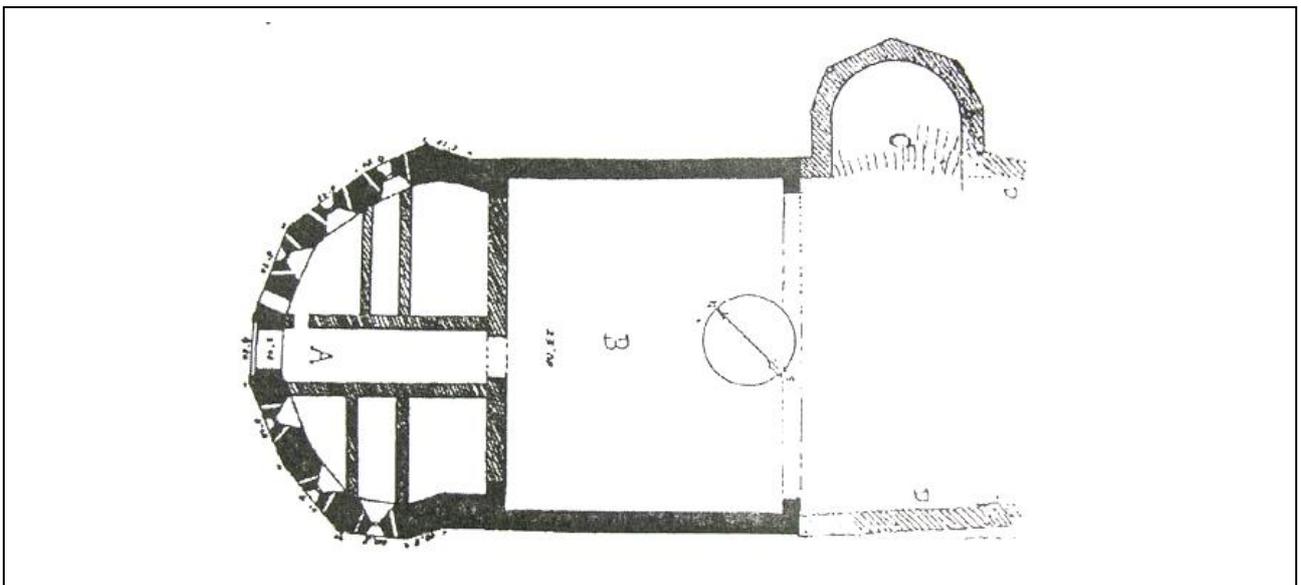


Fig. 10. Photo postcard with ruins of the High Castle in Dobromyl. Beginning of the 20th century (Polona/, 1923).



*Fig. 11. Ruins of the High Castle in Dobromyl. (Polona/, 1923)*

From 1581, Stanisław Herburt, the castellan of Lviv, had the king's permission to possess (rent) salterns throughout Ruthenia (Łabecki, 1841), which significantly increased financial and construction opportunities of the family and contributed to the construction of another much larger, the so-called High Castle near the village of Tarnava (fig. 10-11) (Wikipedia, 2019). Researcher V. Pshyk believes that the Herburts first built a wooden castle on Slipa Hora near the village of Tarnava in the middle of the 15th century (Paprocki, 1858, S.665–667). However, in 1497 during the Tatar attack this castle was destroyed. The brick High Castle was founded by the Herburts in parallel with the development of the Dobromil midtown after 1566. The above-mentioned small wooden Herburt castle, in our opinion, was most likely of the hunting type.



*Fig. 12. Plan of the ruins of the High Castle in Dobromil by W. Łuszczkewicz (Władysław, 1890).*

The building of the High Castle is located on a high mountain in a wood-covered area between the villages of Poliana and Tarnava. The castle is located about 4 km to the south of Dobromyl. The village of Polyana has also long been owned by the Herburts. The architecture of the castle with attic top of high walls with loopholes has typical features of the Renaissance epoch (fig. 10, 11, 12). Researchers believe that giving the castle Renaissance features and palace character took place in the early 17th century (Paprocki, 1858, S.665–667). Built on top of a mountain, the castle has the shape of an elongated rectangle 85x25 m with faceted, semicircular solutions of its narrower sections of walls. Around the perimeter, of the castle outline was closed by a high three-tiered wall with windows and loophole openings. The upper attic tier ended originally with curled merlons, as usual in the castle buildings at that time (Fig. 11). Analogues of the solution of defensive walls are castles in Krasiczyn, in Stare Selo, in Medzhybizh, Klevan', Pomoriany etc. But in terms of architecture and composition, the building of the High Castle has no analogues in Poland and Ukraine (Zharikov, red., 1985, S.213). Therefore, it is of great interest to find out whoo the author-designer of this project was. The interiors of the castle were decorated with Renaissance allegorical painting, portraits of kings and philosophical inscriptions (Sulimierski, Chlebowski, and Walewski, 1881, S.72-76). Thematically, the artistic decor of the interior was tied to the uprising of the nobility against King Sigismund III Vasa, in which Jan Szczęsny Herburt took an active participation (the so-called Zebrzydowski's rebellion in 1606-1607) (Sulimierski, Chlebowski, and Walewski, 1881, S.72-76).



*Fig. 13. A picture of Dobromil Castle from 1698 by Alois Tomaszewski, published in the weekly "Lwowianin" in 1836. The drawing was also published by W. Łoziński in 1912 (Łoziński, 1912, S.12)*

Another important, but already culture related, page of Polish history is connected with the figure of Jan Szczęsny Herburt and the High Castle in Dobromyl. As a very educated man of his time, Jan Herburt set up a printing house in the castle, made printing presses and invited Jan Szeliga, a printer from Cracow, to work.

Between 1611 and 1616, this printing house published works by Wincenty Kadłubek, Stanisław Orzechowski (Fig. 9), and the first four books of the Polish Chronicle by Jan Długos (Rodovid, 2010)

Probably because Jan Herburt's wife was the Ukrainian Princess Elizabeth from the Zaslavskys from Ostroh, he founded the monastery of St. Onuphrius of the Order of Saint Basil the Great three kilometers from Dobromyl. A muniment from 1613 has been preserved, in which the founder transfers 82 morgs of land for the construction of a church and a monastery for the Order of Saint Basil the Great. In the galleries of the monastery, there were painted decorations with Herburts' and other monastery's benefactors' ornaments (Baliński and Lipiński, 1845).

In 1784, the monks of the monastery received permission from the owner of Tarnava to dismantle the walls and use building materials from the ruins of the High Castle to build the monastery (Zamky i khramy Ukrainy, 2010).

### Conclusions

The military and political features of the Ruthenian lands in the 15th-17th centuries during their stay in the Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania should be emphasized. Military construction of cities and castles here differs fundamentally from construction in Central and Western Europe. If the Western European military doctrine was characterized by the construction of powerful city fortifications and military action with the siege and capture of fortresses and castles, in Poland, the nature of the military doctrine was slightly different. Military action with the participation of big army units with a large number of cavalry dominated. The main combat operations took place in the eastern territories during the conflicts with Turkey, but the cities suffered particularly from constant raids by relatively small Tatar units (Milobedski, 1978, S.29-46). To defend against such raids, simple brick walls with towers and even earthen and wooden fortifications in the form of a moat and a rampart with a battle fence were sufficient. From the middle of the 16th century, bastion systems were introduced. Jan Tarnowski in Rożnów on the Dunajec during the reconstruction of the castle first introduced "a system of brick bastions and beluards, and the main defensive entrance solved in the architectural and artistic forms of the early Italian Renaissance" (Władysław, 1890, S.6).

One of the earliest examples of the implementation of the new system in Ukraine we see in the city of Dobromyl. We reconstructed the hypothetical planning scheme of midtown fortifications of Dobromyl on the base of 1853 cadastral map, historical written evidence of their existence in the 17-18 centuries and the study of the topography of the area. We plan to test our hypothesis by georadar research of the territory of ancient city fortifications and the Low Castle. The Low and High castles were founded in Dobromil by Herburts in the middle of the 15th century. At the beginning of the 17th century, the High Castle in Dobromil was rebuilt, turning it into a Renaissance representative palace (1616).

We consider that an important result of our study is determine the exact location of the Low Castle. Judging by the images on d'Otto's and F. von Mieg's maps, we identified the localization of Low Castle in planning structure of Dobromyl. Based on these maps we have a hypothesis that Low Castle had the features of a typical defensive courtyard of the early 16th century. We would like to emphasize that our proposed reconstructions of the midtown and the Low Castle fortifications are hypothetical and we plan to continue our research to obtain more detailed proposals.

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